Amendments to the Claims

1.   (currently amended) A method for configuring an appliance across a network, comprising:

    receiving configuration instructions via an e-mail message including the instructions in command format received at the appliance; ~~and~~

    extracting the configuration instructions from the e-mail message without parsing; and configuring the appliance according to the configuration instructions.

2.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the e-mail message is received at a mail server on the appliance.

3.   (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the mail server on the appliance communicates is one of the group comprised of: an IMAP server, and a SMTP server.

4.   (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the method further comprises running a mail daemon from the appliance, wherein the appliance is always connected to the network and the daemon monitors electronic mail for the device.

5.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the method further comprises connecting the appliance to the network to receive the e-mail message.

6.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the e-mail message is received at a mail client on the appliance.

7.   (previously presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the mail client on the appliance communicates with a mail server on the network.

8.   (withdrawn) A network appliance, comprising:

    a connector operable to connect the appliance to a network; and

    a mail recipient operable to receive electronic mail sent to the device.

9.   (withdrawn) The appliance of claim 8, wherein the appliance further comprises a parser operable to parse the electronic mail and extract configuration instructions from the electronic mail.

10.   (withdrawn) The appliance of claim 8, wherein the mail recipient is a mail server.

11.   (withdrawn) The appliance of claim 8, wherein the connector is operable to provide a persistent connection to the network.

12.   (withdrawn) The appliance of claim 8, wherein the mail recipient is a mail client.

13.   (withdrawn) The appliance of claim 8, wherein the connector is operable to connect the appliance to the network occasionally.

14.   (previously presented) An article comprising a storage medium, the storage medium having stored thereon instructions, that, when executed by a computing device, result in:

reception of an electronic mail message by a network appliance;

extraction of instructions from the electronic mail message without parsing; and

configuration of the appliance in accordance with the instructions contained in the electronic mail.

15.   (original) The article of claim 14, wherein the computing device is the network appliance.

16.   (original) The article of claim 15, wherein the network appliance is a remote camera.

17.   (original) The article of claim 15, wherein the network appliance is an Internet radio player.